

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement D

8t. Some indefinite pronouns are plural, some are singular, and some may be either.

(1) Use a singular pronoun to refer to *anybody, anyone, anything, each, either, everybody, everyone, everything, neither, nobody, nothing, no one, one, somebody, someone, and something*.

EXAMPLES Has **anyone** lost **his or her** keys?

Each of the recipes calls for wheat as **its** main ingredient.

(2) The following indefinite pronouns are plural: *both, few, many, and several*.

EXAMPLE **Several** of the teachers ordered **their** textbooks early.

(3) The indefinite pronouns *all, any, more, most, none, and some* may be singular or plural, depending on their meaning in a sentence.

EXAMPLES **All** of the money retained **its** value. [*All* refers to the singular noun *money*.]

All of the vases retained **their** value. [*All* refers to the plural noun *vases*.]

EXERCISE On the line provided in each of the following sentences, write a pronoun that agrees with its antecedent. Then, circle the antecedent.

Example 1. Several of the houses lost their roofs during the storm.

- Each of my sisters has _____ own pogo stick.
- None of the employees should reveal _____ password to anyone.
- Everything the teacher said made sense the moment he said _____.
- Both of the astronomical calendars have the same nebula on _____ covers.
- Several of the police officers spent _____ holidays volunteering at the new community center.
- If you have anything to say during the debate, please say _____ as succinctly as possible.
- Neither of my grandmothers has ever revealed _____ secret for making jambalaya.
- More of the palm trees have been planted this year because _____ look so striking along the beach.
- One of the male interns put _____ clipboard down to pick up the baby.
- Most of the radio program was written by Marta, but a few minutes of _____ were written by Tish.